

210 COMMENTARY ON MACAULAY'S
HISTORY

the Earl of Clarendon to succeed him. Clarendon held office till February 1687, when Tyrconnel took his place. Macaulay had the advantage of Clarendon's own letters, printed in the *Diary and Correspondence of Henry Earl of Clarendon*, edited by S. W. Singer, but for the period of Tyrconnel's rule there are no materials of equal value and authority. One of the authorities Macaulay used was * Sheridan MS. among the Stuart Papers/¹ The memoirs of Thomas Sheridan, Chief Secretary and First Commissioner of the Revenue in Ireland, have been printed by the Historical Manuscripts Commission, Stuart Papers, vi (1916). Of Tyrconnel's letters few have been preserved. Those calendared by the Historical Manuscripts Commission (Eighth Report, pp. 494-7) are few in number and mostly relate to the military operations which followed the Revolution. Some concerning 1688 are printed in *Analecta Hibernica*, No. i (1930; pp. 38-44). Nothing[^] however, in the scraps of new evidence which have come to hand about the years 1687^{an^} 1688 vindicates the policy or the administration of Tyrconnel from the censure Macaulay has pronounced upon it. It was well known, he wrote, that Tyrconnel had set his heart on the extermination of the English colony in Ireland.² By the end of 1688 both civil and military power had been transferred from

the Saxon to
the Celtic population.³ Tyrconnel's violent
policy had
aroused the wildest hopes of the Irish. It was
natural
therefore that the Irish should refuse to
recognise the
English settlement of the Revolution, and
adhere to James.
The vehemence of their nationalism was
revealed when
James, who landed in Ireland in March 1689,
summoned a
Parliament to meet in Dublin.

³**II, 789 n. (vi)}.**

^a II, 806 (vi).

^ III, 1430 (**xii**).